

producers, and its recommendations have been widely praised within the agricultural community.

The success of the advisory committee was in no small measure attributable to its membership. The panel consisted of 21 individuals from across the country who represent a cross section of the livestock industry. It included farmers, ranchers, meat packers, processors, poultry growers, retailers, and economists.

While all committee members should be commended for their determination to get to the bottom of the livestock concentration issue, I want to single out for special mention the two members from South Dakota: Herman Schumacher and Tyrone Moos.

Herman Schumacher, who served as vice-chair of the advisory committee, lives in Herried, SD. He owns and operates the Herried Livestock Auction, is past president of the South Dakota Livestock Auction Markets Association, and is part owner of a cattle feedlot.

Without question, Herman is one of the most tenacious and persuasive advocates for cattle producers I have ever met. He understands American agriculture and never stops looking for ways to address problems facing farmers and ranchers. Herman's expertise and leadership were instrumental to the development of the committee's consensus findings and recommendations. In addition, he helped craft additional minority views that are more prescriptive than the consensus views in outlining responses to problems identified in the report.

Tyrone Moos is a grain and livestock producer from Philip, SD, who also serves as director of the Harvest States Cooperative. Tyrone's expertise in both grain and livestock issues were invaluable to the committee's deliberations.

One focus of the committee's review was the impact of concentration in the agricultural transportation industry. The century-old problem of insufficient access to rail cars contributes to the determination of the final price a producer receives for his or her commodities, and Tyrone's experience helped shape the committee's findings in this area. Additionally, Tyrone's influence was evident in the tone and substance of the final recommendations for both the consensus and minority views sections of the report.

When Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman called to solicit Herman's and Tyrone's service on this important committee, it would have been easy for them to decline the invitation. The commitment and sacrifice asked of them was significant.

The Department of Agriculture did not offer compensation, not even for travel expenses. But it did ask for a significant commitment of time. Herman, Tyrone and their colleagues served countless hours on the panel's work—time that could have been spent looking after their own business interests or with their families.

The advisory committee's inquiry directed needed attention to the serious

problem of stagnating cattle prices, provided insights on the nature of that problem and offered recommendations for what might be done about it. Farmers and ranchers in South Dakota and elsewhere should be thankful for that effort.

The work of the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Concentration is done. It is now up to our Nation's policymakers to evaluate the panel's findings and act on its recommendations. I look forward to taking the baton passed on by Herman Schumacher and Tyrone Moos, and I thank them for pointing the way to a solution to the problem of concentration in agriculture.

ISRAELI ELECTION ABOUT DEFINITION OF PEACE

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, the campaign for Israel's first directly elected Prime Minister not only brought a victory for Benjamin Netanyahu but a defeat for the mistaken idea that peace can only be defined from a liberal perspective.

While two well-qualified candidates with different ideologies each articulated their vision for the country, many in the American media—those who reported on the campaign and the experts journalists chose to interview—hid behind stereotypes and missed the real point of the election. At its very core, the campaign was not about whether there should be peace but how to define it.

The American media told us the issue was simply this: Shimon Peres, the liberal, wanted peace. Benjamin Netanyahu, the conservative, didn't. Implied in this ridiculous statement is the wrong assumption that only liberals understand peace.

In the days since the election, the American media aren't quite certain how to characterize Mr. Netanyahu. When Mr. Netanyahu recently expressed his desire for Israel to continue to seek peace with its Arab neighbors—a position he has advocated all along—a Washington Post story identified him as "kinder and gentler."

The media's failure to understand Benjamin Netanyahu and his conservative principles of real peace—real security underscores the differences in how liberals and conservatives view foreign policy.

The left believes peace is simply the absence of conflict. To achieve peace, the left will do whatever is necessary and in many cases give up whatever is necessary simply to maintain the peace.

Conservatives believe peace without freedom is false. Only through the guiding principle that freedom is the core of all human progress can a nation build a lasting peace. After all, what is peace without freedom? What is peace if it means living in constant fear? In Cuba and China today, there is peace, but certainly no freedom.

When any nation builds its foreign policy on a foundation of freedom, democracy, justice, and human rights, true peace and hope will inevitably prevail.

During the 1980's, the left and the media soundly criticized Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher when their policies boldly stated that negotiations with the Soviet Union must be carried out from a position of strength and security . . . not appeasement.

History proved them right. Freedom won. The Berlin Wall—a symbol of tyranny and oppression—crumbled and communism was replaced by capitalism.

Even if many in the American media apparently believe in the ludicrous claim that appeasement leads to peace, Israeli Jews—a majority of whom voted for Netanyahu—correctly understand that protecting freedom is essential to preserving peace.

In his analysis of the election, A.M. Rosenthal of the New York Times said it best when he wrote: "the majority was not voting against peace—the very idea is idiocy—but for the hope that Mr. Netanyahu and a Likud-led coalition might create a peace they could trust while they slept, not just while they stood at arms."

In a region where Israel's neighbors have vowed its destruction, where thousands of missiles in other countries are pointed at Israel's cities, where well-financed terrorists threaten to murder and frighten Israel's citizens, appeasement through weakness will only invite more violence, more bloodshed and inevitably a loss of freedom and peace.

We all want peace for Israel—a shining jewel of democracy in a region where freedom is often unwelcome. Choosing the best road for achieving that peace is the task that awaits Benjamin Netanyahu. He understands—as well as the overwhelming majority of Israeli Jews who voted for him—that only when Israel is secure, can Israel truly be free and at peace.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, at this time when the fiscal year 1997 appropriations level for the National Endowment for the Arts is being determined, I would like to illustrate the importance of the arts to the education of our children and to the growth of the local economy through two examples from my home State of Rhode Island.

The May 23 issue of *Nature* describes the Starting With the Arts [SWAP] Program for 96 first-graders in four Pawtucket, RI, classrooms. The program is based on the internationally recognized Kodaly curriculum that emphasizes musical and visual arts skills. After 7 months, the SWAP children scored better in math than their counterparts who had standard classes—and equally well in reading—even though their kindergarten scores indicated that they were behind. At the end of second grade, math comprehension and

problem-solving skills were highest in students who received 2 years of the special program, next best in those who had 1 year, and worst in those who received the standard curriculum.

The findings of a nationwide survey on the attitudes of Americans toward the arts, conducted by Louis Harris and released this month, found that 9 in 10 Americans believed that when children get involved in the arts in school, they "become more creative and imaginative," "develop skills that make them feel more accomplished," and "learn to communicate well." Over 8 in 10 Americans also feel that exposure to the arts "helps young people develop discipline and perseverance" and helps them "to learn skills that can be useful in a job." The Pawtucket youngsters confirm these beliefs.

My second example stems from a 2-hour public forum organized as part of the 16th International Sculpture Conference in Providence last week. At this meeting, numerous civic, cultural, and business leaders came forward to show how the arts have served to stimulate the economic revival of downtown Providence. What is happening in Rhode Island is happening nationally. Nonprofit arts organizations create nearly \$37 billion in economic activity in the United States every year, and support 1.3 million American jobs.

The arts are one of the best and the cheapest ways of improving the economy. The arts stimulate business development, spur urban renewal, attract new businesses, and improve the overall quality of life in our cities and towns. Roger Mandle at the Rhode Island School of Design has repeatedly demonstrated the importance of design to both the economy and greater ease in every day life. Existing and available cultural resources are frequently cited as one of the prime reasons businesses select to move to a community. The arts can literally turn a community or neighborhood around.

One of the best illustrations of the impact of the arts on the economy is tourism, and tourism is the fastest growing economic market in the United States today. In Providence, the Providence Performing Arts Center and Trinity Square Repertory Company have brought countless audiences to their theaters, with many people spending money on restaurants, shops, parking, and the like that would not do so otherwise without the presence of the arts. Recent discussions among the museums in the downtown area have led to the exciting concept of a Museum Mile connecting these cultural institutions through a collective effort in marketing, fundraising, parking, transportation. The result will attract visitors from all over the country to Providence. When the arts is good, more people are employed, and more taxable income generates more revenue for our State and local municipalities.

There are more artists per square mile living in Providence than in any other city in the United States, and

this number is likely to increase with the passage of proposed State legislation that would provide State income and sales breaks to artists living or working in the central business district. One bill would exempt these artists from paying sales tax on plays, books, musical compositions, paintings and sculpture. A second bill would provide these artists with a personal tax exempt. The Rhode Island House Finance Committee has voted its approval. In praising the effort, Mayor Vincent A. Cianci, Jr. states: "These bills, while supporting our artists and arts, promote economic development and tourism and will create a more dynamic synergy among the Arts and Entertainment District, Capital Center and the Province Place mall."

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to consider these examples from Rhode Island, to understand the far-reaching positive impact of the arts on both education and economy, and to join together in a bipartisan effort to appropriate \$136 million for the National Endowment for the Arts as requested by administration. It is important that this agency is funded sufficiently to be able to continue its worthwhile and extremely effective endeavors to improve the quality of life for all Americans.

The recent Harris Poll referenced above shows that Federal support for the arts remains solid and strong. Surprisingly, Harris also found that a 61 percent majority of Americans—to 37 percent saying "no"—would be willing to be taxed \$5 more in order to pay for Federal financial support for the arts. Fully 86 percent of all American adults are exposed to the arts in the course of a year. These people believe the arts to be important and would sorely miss them if they were not there.

SENATE PAGES—SPRING CLASS OF 1996

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, today the Senate bids farewell to a group of young men and women who have served as U.S. Senate pages for the spring semester.

These young people have been witnesses to vigorous debates on a number of issues of national significance—truly spirited debates. Just this past week, they watched as Senate Dole gave his final speech as a U.S. Senator.

We in the Senate appreciate all that they did to serve the needs of this body—and those needs were many. The Senate pages serve a very valuable and important role in the day-to-day workings of the Senate, and we very much thank them for their work.

As these young people return to their respective communities, it is my hope that they will take with them a better understanding of how this Government works, and understand the necessity of working together to achieve a common goal. Perhaps someday, one or more of them will return as Members of the U.S. Senate.

To the pages, on behalf of myself, the majority leader and all Members of the

Senate, we wish you well, good luck in the years ahead, and we say thank you.

I ask unanimous consent that a list of the names of the pages of the spring class of 1996 be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the list was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE PAGES—SPRING CLASS OF 1996

Tracy R. Clark, Vermont.
Christie M. Curtis, New Jersey.
Janelle D'Ambrosio, New York.
Ford P. Davidson, Washington State.
Abigail David, Virginia.
Carl Kean, Arkansas.
Autumn Fredericks, Mississippi.
Elisabeth Hagadorn, Michigan.
Richard Hutchinson, South Dakota.
Thad Larson, South Dakota.
Brooke Lawyer, Mississippi.
J. Wesley McCleave, Alabama.
Evan Meyer, Indiana.
Elizabeth Reaves, Vermont.
Joshuah Roberts, Arkansas.
Dorothy Robinson, Delaware.
Heidi Sann, Massachusetts.
Devin Sullivan, Montana.
Alyssa Thornburg, Pennsylvania.
Jennifer Wilking, Wyoming.

LAKOTA FUND GROUND BREAKING

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I want to talk briefly about the tireless efforts being undertaken by a local nonprofit organization in South Dakota to improve the severe economic conditions on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Over the years, numerous national press articles have documented the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation as one of the most impoverished areas in the country. The arid nature of the land lends little to farming and ranching. Banks, department stores, paved roads, and even safe drinking water are not to be taken for granted. Even amidst the stark majesty of its landscape, the vibrant tourism industry of western South Dakota remains a whisper of promise. Quite simply, on the Pine Ridge Reservation, the basic economic infrastructure that we all take for granted, struggles to exist.

Ten years ago, a group of Pine Ridge residents, dedicated to improving their local economy, created a peer lending program called the Lakota Fund. After forming partnerships with private foundations and Federal agencies for seed money, this unique program began processing loans for economic enterprise on the reservation. It mandated enrollment in financial and business training courses and required groups of loan recipients to cosign for each others' loans. This unique lending approach, emphasizing trust over credit, created a strong sense of teamwork in the area that has enabled many budding entrepreneurs to realize their dreams.

Before participating in the program, one young woman was unable to fulfill her dream of buying a house for her family. However, after successfully starting her own business and repaying her loan to the Lakota Fund, she was able to purchase a home, thanks to the establishment of a good credit record.